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MARVEL® COMICS GROUP

MARVEL TEAM-UP

FEATURING

SPIDER-MAN AND NIGHTCRAWLER™

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SHOOT OUT OVER CENTER RING!

Stan Lee presents: SPIDER-MAN AND NIGHTCRAWLER

SHOOT OUT OVER CENTER RING!

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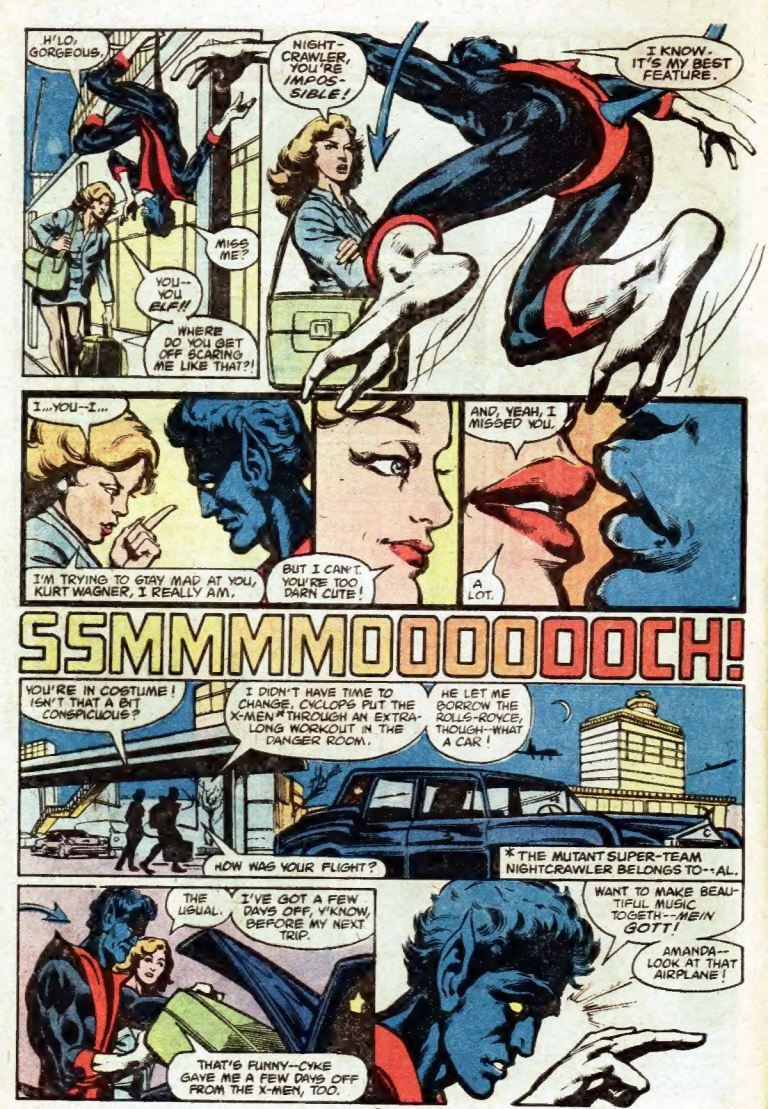
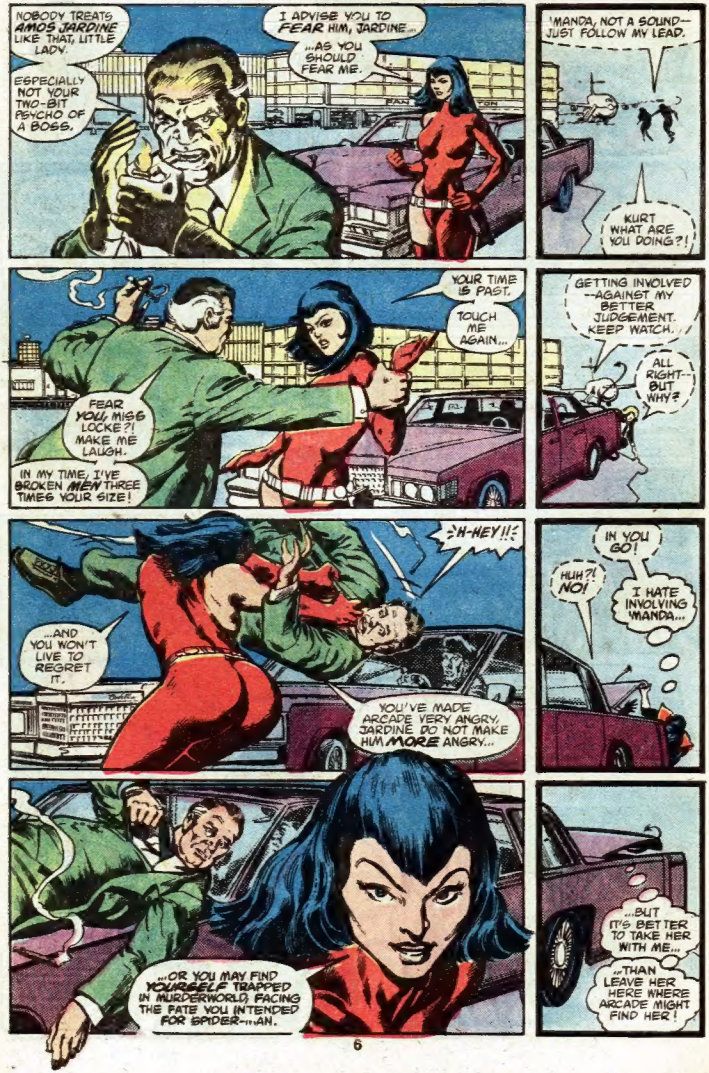

H'LO, GORGEOUS.
NIGHT-CRAWLER, YOU'RE IMPOS-SIBLE!
I KNOW-IT'S MY BEST FEATURE.
MISS ME?
YOU--YOU ELF!!
WHERE DO YOU GET OFF SCARING ME LIKE THAT?!
I...YOU--I...
I'M TRYING TO STAY MAD AT YOU, KURT WAGNER, I REALLY AM,
BUT I CAN'T. YOU'RE TOO DARN CUTE!
AND, YEAH, I MISSED YOU.
A LOT.
SSMMMMOOOOOOCH!
YOU'RE IN COSTUME! ISN'T THAT A BIT CONSPICUOUS?
I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO CHANGE, CYCLOPS PUT THE X-MEN* THROUGH AN EXTRA-LONG WORKOUT IN THE DANGER ROOM.
HE LET ME BORROW THE ROLLS-ROYCE, THOUGH--WHAT A CAR!
HOW WAS YOUR FLIGHT?
* THE MUTANT SUPER-TEAM NIGHTCRAWLER BELONGS TO--AL.
THE USUAL.
I'VE GOT A FEW DAYS OFF, Y'KNOW, BEFORE MY NEXT TRIP.
THAT'S FUNNY--CYKE GAVE ME A FEW DAYS OFF FROM THE X-MEN, TOO.
WANT TO MAKE BEAUTIFUL MUSIC TOGETH---ME/N GOTT!
AMANDA--LOOK AT THAT AIRPLANE!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

THEY HAD ALL AWAKENED IN MURDERWORLD...
ARCADE'S ASSASSINATION AMUSEMENT PARK, HIS TARGETS THEN HAD BEEN THE X-MEN--YET, AFTER A HARD FIGHT ARCADE HAD INEXPLICABLY LET THEM, AND THE GIRLS, GO.
WAS IST--? THAT CAR--?!
THE VOICE WITH THE TEXAS TWANG, NIGHTCRAWLER RECOGNIZES IMMEDIATELY.
IT TURNS HIS HEART TO ICE.
WE GOT NOTHIN' MORE T'SAY, PALLY.
BE REASONABLE ARCADE.
STICK YER REASON IN YER EAR, JARDINE! WHERE I COME FROM, A MAN'S WORD MEANS SOMETHIN'!
I WAS HIRED TO KILL SPIDER-MAN! WE HAD AN AGREEMENT. YOU BROKE IT. WE'RE THROUGH!
HE'S COMING INSIDE! I'VE GOT NO CHOICE--
-I HAVE TO TELEPORT!
KURT!
OH, THANK HEAVEN YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!
HUSH!
BE BRAVE, LIEBCHEN! WE'RE NOT OUT OF THE WOODS YET!
FATSO'S GOT A NERVE! FIRST, HIRIN' ME T'WASTE SPIDER-MAN--WHICH WOULD'A BEEN A LABOR OF LOVE ON MY PART--THEN REPLACIN' ME WITH SOME CUT-RATE COSTUMED FUNK!
WHAT IS THAT SMELL? BRIMSTONE...?!
AN' THEN, HE HAS THE GALL T'DEMAND HIS DEPOSIT BACK!
WELL, I'LL BE--I ONLY ONE BODY IN THE WORLD MAKES A STINK LIKE THAT, Y'KNOW, ALL OF A SUDDEN, THIS NIGHT'S STARTIN' T'LOOK UP!


NOBODY TREATS AMOS JARDINE LIKE THAT, LITTLE LADY.
I ADVISE YOU TO FEAR HIM, JARDINE...
...AS YOU SHOULD FEAR ME.
ESPECIALLY NOT YOUR TWO-BIT PSYCHO OF A BOSS.
'MANDA, NOT A SOUND--JUST FOLLOW MY LEAD.
KURT WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
YOUR TIME IS PAST.
TOUCH ME AGAIN...
FEAR YOU, MISS LOCKE?! MAKE ME LAUGH.
IN MY TIME, I'VE BROKEN MEN THREE TIMES YOUR SIZE!
GETTING INVOLVED --AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGEMENT. KEEP WATCH.
ALL RIGHT-- BUT WHY?
H-HEY!!
...AND YOU WON'T LIVE TO REGRET IT.
YOU'VE MADE ARCADE VERY ANGRY, JARDINE. DO NOT MAKE HIM MORE ANGRY...
IN YOU GO!
HUH?! NO!
I HATE INVOLVING 'MANDA...
...OR YOU MAY FIND YOURSELF TRAPPED IN MURDERWORLD, FACING THE FATE YOU INTENDED FOR SPIDER-MAN.
...BUT IT'S BETTER TO TAKE HER WITH ME...
...THAN LEAVE HER HERE WHERE ARCADE MIGHT FIND HER!

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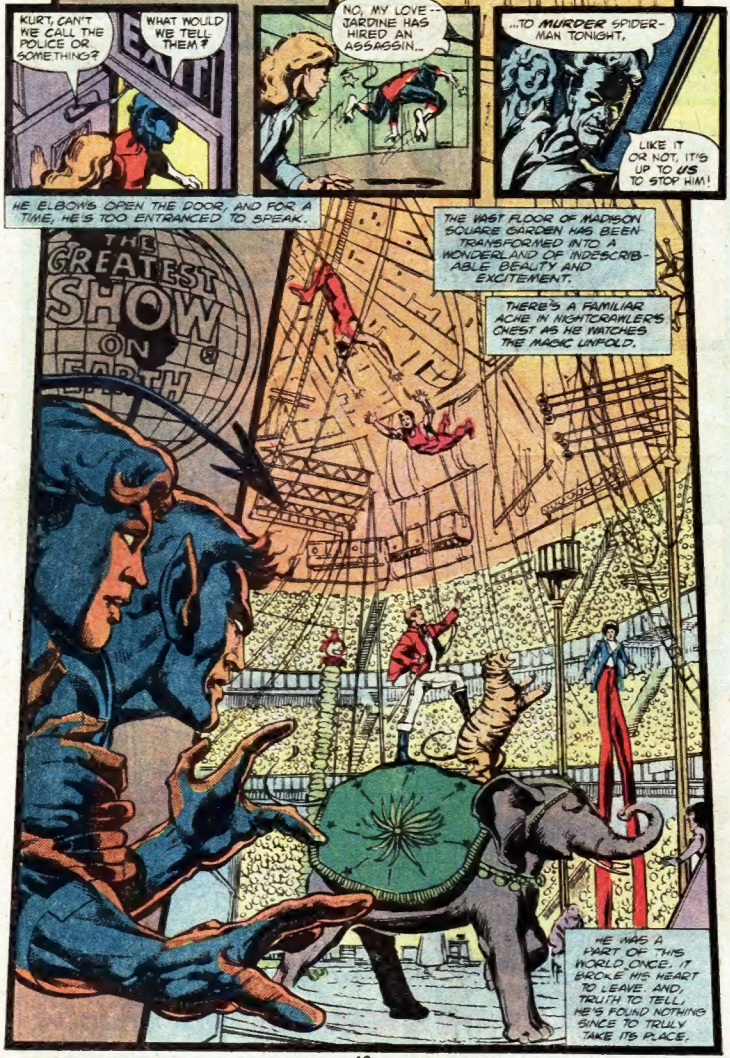
KURT, CAN'T WE CALL THE POLICE OR SOMETHING?
WHAT WOULD WE TELL THEM?
EXIT
NO, MY LOVE -- JARDINE HAS HIRED AN ASSASSIN...
...TO MURDER SPIDER-MAN TONIGHT.
LIKE IT OR NOT, IT'S UP TO US TO STOP HIM!
HE ELBOWS OPEN THE DOOR, AND FOR A TIME, HE'S TOO ENTRANCED TO SPEAK.
THE VAST FLOOR OF MADISON SQUARE GARDEN HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO A WONDERLAND OF INDESCRIBABLE BEAUTY AND EXCITEMENT.
THERE'S A FAMILIAR ACHE IN NIGHTCRAWLER'S CHEST AS HE WATCHES THE MAGIC UNFOLD.
THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH
HE WAS A PART OF THIS WORLD ONCE. IT BROKE HIS HEART TO LEAVE. AND, TRUTH TO TELL, HE'S FOUND NOTHING SINCE TO TRULY TAKE ITS PLACE.

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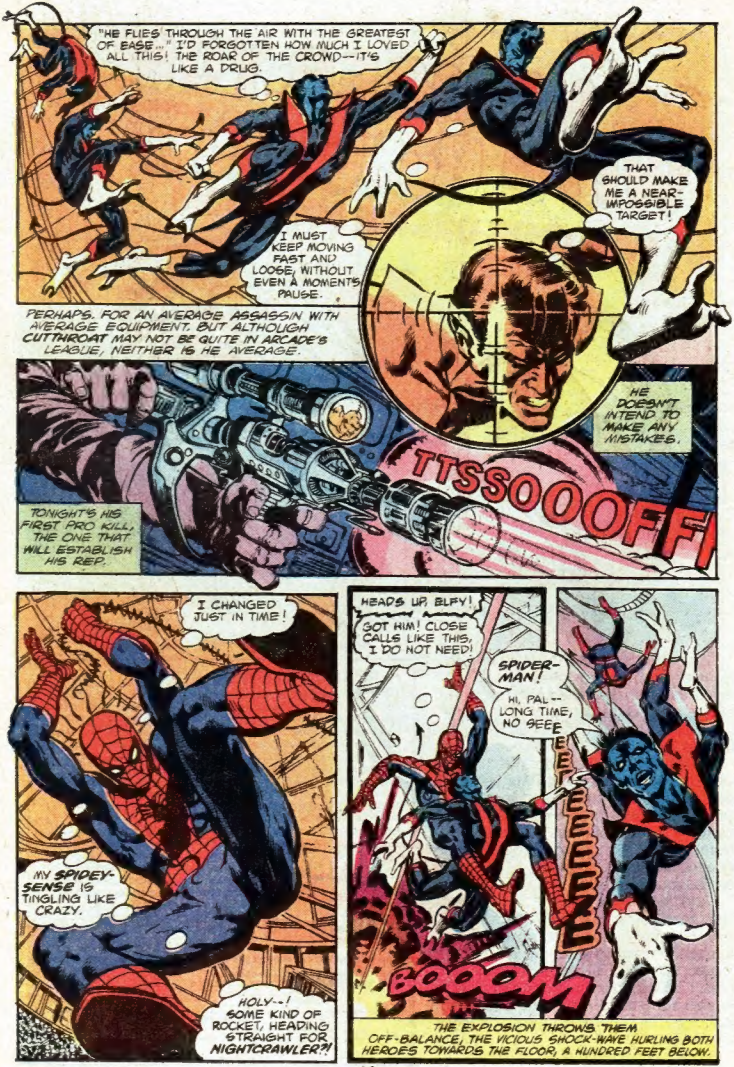
"HE FLIES THROUGH THE AIR WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE..." I'D FORGOTTEN HOW MUCH I LOVED ALL THIS! THE ROAR OF THE CROWD--IT'S LIKE A DRUG.
I MUST KEEP MOVING FAST AND LOOSE, WITHOUT EVEN A MOMENT'S PAUSE.
THAT SHOULD MAKE ME A NEAR-IMPOSSIBLE TARGET!
PERHAPS. FOR AN AVERAGE ASSASSIN WITH AVERAGE EQUIPMENT. BUT ALTHOUGH CUTTHROAT MAY NOT BE QUITE IN ARCADE'S LEAGUE, NEITHER IS HE AVERAGE.
HE DOESN'T INTEND TO MAKE ANY MISTAKES.
TTSSOOOFF!
TONIGHT'S HIS FIRST PRO KILL. THE ONE THAT WILL ESTABLISH HIS REP.
I CHANGED JUST IN TIME!
MY SPIDEY-SENSE IS TINGLING LIKE CRAZY.
HOLY--! SOME KIND OF ROCKET, HEADING STRAIGHT FOR NIGHTCRAWLER?!
HEADS UP, ELFY!
GOT HIM! CLOSE CALLS LIKE THIS, I DO NOT NEED!
SPIDER-MAN!
HI, PAL--LONG TIME, NO SEEE
EEEEEEEEE
BOOOM
THE EXPLOSION THROWS THEM OFF-BALANCE, THE VICIOUS SHOCK-WAVE HURLING BOTH HEROES TOWARDS THE FLOOR, A HUNDRED FEET BELOW.

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ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SPIDEY?
A LITTLE DEAR—BUT THAT SURE BEATS BEING DEAD. THANKS.
MY PLEASURE. BESIDES, I OWED YOU ONE—
OOF!!
SPIDEY-SENSE WARNING ME--!
BWAAARROOOM
WHY THE BLAZES DID YOU SHOVE--?!
OH.
AS SHRAPNEL SPRAYS RING-SIDE, THE AUDIENCE BELATEDLY REALIZES THAT THE FIREWORKS AND SPECTACULAR ACROBATICS AREN'T BEING PERFORMED FOR THEIR BENEFIT. THERE REALLY IS A KILLER ON THE LOOSE.
THEY REACT ACCORDINGLY.
THE CROWD'S STARTING TO PANIC! THAT COSTUMED CLOD--! HE PROMISED ME A QUICK, CLEAN KILL IN CENTER RING--THE PUBLIC RELATIONS COUP OF THE CENTURY...
...WORTH MILLIONS IN PUBLICITY!
INSTEAD, IT'S TURNING INTO A FIASCO!
ANY SIGN OF THE SNIPER?
NOPE. HE COULD BE ANYWHERE!
I SAW HIM!
WHO--?!?
IT'S OKAY. SHE'S WITH ME.
WHERE, 'MANDA?
THE ROOF OF THE ARENA—OVER THERE!
I SAW AN IGNITION FLASH AN INSTANT BEFORE THE LAST ROCKET HIT!
GOOD GIRL! NOW GET UNDER COVER! WE'LL HANDLE THINGS FROM HERE!
BAM BAM
AGAIN, NIGHTCRAWLER TELEPORTS...

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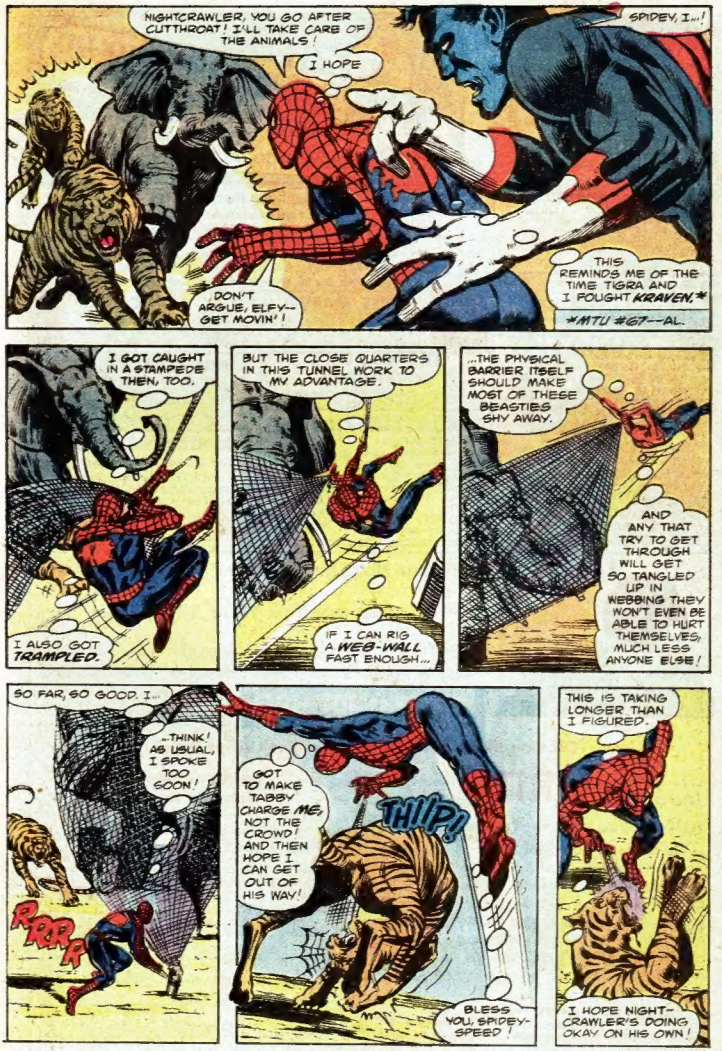
HE DUCKED DOWN THIS PASSAGEWAY!
HE'S PROBABLY USING THE CROWD FOR COVER!
NAH! THE DOESN'T SOUND TOO GOOD! THAT KILLER MUST HAVE HURT HIM MORE THAN HE'LL LET ON!
GANGWAY, PEOPLE--GANG-WAY!
IT'S NO USE! THERE ARE 15,000 PEOPLE IN THIS ARENA, WE'LL NEVER FIND HIM!
HEY! WHAT'S THAT GUY DOING IN THE MENAGERIE?!
SPIDEY, CUTTHROAT'S RELEASING THE ANIMALS! IF HE MANAGES TO STAMPEDE THEM--?!
SNORT!
I GET THE PICTURE, PAL.
JARDINE HAS ALL MANNER OF BEASTS STORED DEEP IN THE CONCRETE BOWELS OF MADISON SQUARE GARDEN--
--SOME OF THEM SMALL AND CUTE AND CUDDLY AND QUITE HARMLESS. MANY QUITE THE OPPOSITE.
RRRAWR!
BUT, BIG OR SMALL, GENTLE OR MEAN, CUT-THROAT TURNS THEM ALL LOOSE.
AND WITH A FEW WELL-PLACED SHOTS FROM HIS ROCKET GUN, SENDS THEM ALL THUNDERING UP THE RAMP TOWARDS OUR HEROES--AND THE UNSUSPECTING CROWD BEYOND.



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HE'S STILL ALIVE, WEB-SLINGER. ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, THAT'S DOING PRETTY GOOD.
CUTTHROAT'S FAST--WHILE I'M TIRED, AND HURT.
THAT GIVES HIM AN EDGE.
BUT THEN, WHAT'S THE POINT OF BEING A SEXY, SWASHBUCKLING SUPER-HERO, IF EVERY FIGHT IS A SURE THING?
YOU CAN'T WIN, CUTTHROAT.
AND YOU WON'T ESCAPE! WHY NOT SIMPLY GIVE UP AND SAVE EVERYONE A LOT OF UNNECESSARY GRIEF?
I'VE FOUGHT ALL MY LIFE FOR THIS CHANCE TO BE SOMEBODY!
IT'LL TAKE MORE THAN WORDS TO MAKE ME CHUCK IT AWAY!
ANOTHER DART! BETTER BE CAREFUL--COULD BE A SET-UP!
ACH, NEIN!
I DODGED IT--BUT IT DIDN'T GO PAST ME!
POOF
SOME KIND OF PROXIMITY FUSE--EXPLODED A MAGNESIUM FLARE--SO BRIGHT!
PROBLEMS, MISTER?
I CAN'T SEE!
IF I CAN... REMEMBER LAY-OUT OF... TUNNEL, MAYBE I CAN TELEPORT..?
I HAD IT MADE TONIGHT, FREAK! I WAS GONNA GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS THE MAN WHO KILLED SPIDER-MAN!
TILL YOU STARTED SCREWIN' THINGS UP!
BUT AT LEAST I'LL HAVE THE SATISFACTION OF BLOWING YOU AWAY--!
?!?!
KLIK!
THWIP

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I'VE GOT THE GIRL, HEROES, AND I'VE GOT THE GUN! STEP OUT OF LINE AND I'LL USE IT!
I KNOW THAT TONE OF VOICE. HE'S SCARED--AND SERIOUS!
IF I MAKE A MOVE, IT'S GOT TO BE A MASTERPIECE OF SPEED AND TIMING...

...AND ABOVE ALL, SURPRISE!
BAM F!
THAT STENCH--THAT NOISE--WHAT IN HEAVEN'S NAME--?!
NIGHTCRAWLER!

MY TELEPORT HAS CONFUSED HIM! I'VE GOT A SECOND TO DISARM HIM...
...BEFORE HE RECOVERS!

ELFY TOOK CARE OF THE GUN, I'LL DO THE HONORS WITH THE GUY!
FIRST, A WEB-BALL TO SET HIM UP.
URRRGH!

FOLLOWED BY A ROUNDHOUSE LEFT TO FINISH THE JOB!
OK!
PAF!
PYTON
AND AWAY HE GOES!

BEAUTIFUL--- HEY, WHAT'S THIS?
FIND SOMETHING?
A NARCODART, BENEATH JARDINE'S BODY! TAKE A LOOK AT THE MARKINGS ON IT!

"A"--- FOR ARCADE?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE WE HAD OUR VERY OWN GUARDIAN "ANGEL" LOOKING AFTER US.
WANT TO CHECK IT OUT?

NOPE. I'VE HAD ENOUGH EXCITEMENT FOR ONE NIGHT. ALL I WANT NOW IS SOME T-L-C!
LIKEWISE. CIAO, SPIDEY. NICE MEETING YOU.
UH, YEAH, LIKE-WISE--S'LONG!
;SHEESH!! LOOKS LIKE I GET STUCK MOPPING UP AGAIN!
FIN.